राष्ट्रीय सांस्कृतिक कोष

5679. श्रीमती सरला माहेश्वरी: क्या मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार राष्ट्रीय सांस्कृतिक कोष स्थापित करने का विचार रखती है, और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस प्रस्ताव का ब्यौरा क्या है?

मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय (शिक्षा विभाग एवं संस्कृति विभाग) में उप मंत्री (कुमारी शैलजा): (क) जी, हां।

(ख) प्रस्ताव के पूर्ण ब्यौरे को अंतिम रूप से तैयार किया जा रहा है।

Letters Written by MPs

5680. SHRI MOHAMMED AFZAL ALIAS MEEM AFZAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of letters written by the Members of Parliament to his Ministry during the period from 1st April, 1994 to 31st March, 1995 alongwith year-wise details thereof;

(b) the number of letter acknowledged out of them;

(c) the number of letters in respect of which final replies were sent; and

(d) what is the break-up of final letters issued by the Ministry containing positive and negative replies respectively?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPTT. OF EDUCATION AND DEPTT. OF CULTURE) (KM. SEUA): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Exploitation of working women

5681. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Governmnct are aware of the working women's exploitation in various parts of the country;

(b) whether due to bottlenecks in Central Acts and laws for the welfare of women, the exploitation is increasing;

(c) whether any study has been conducted by Government or by any Voluntary Organisation in this regard;

(d) if so, the detailf thereof; and

(e) the effective steps taken by Government to check women's exploitation in the country?

THE MINISER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT) (SMT. BASAVARAJESWARI) (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government is aware of the various forms of exploitation which the working women are likely to face in the country and views this matter with concern. Government is aware of the need for continuous monitoring of the implementation of various laws in the country. The Women's Labour Cell in the Ministry of Labour deals with the formulation of policy to remove the handicaps under which women labourers work, to strengthen their bargaining position, to improve their wages and working conditions to enhance their skills and open up better employment opportunities for them. Ministry of Labour also particularly monitors the Equal Remuneration Act, 1976. A Central Advisory Cell has been set up for overseeing the implementation of Equal Remuneration Act. Similar Committees have been set up by most of the States/ U.Ts.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) The Constitution of India not only grants equality to women but also empowers the State to adopt measures of positive discrimination in favour of women. The State has enacted women specific and women related legislations like Equal Remuneration Act, 1976, a

number of labour laws such as the Factories Act, 1948, the Maternity Benefit Act, 1961, the Beedi and Cigar Workers (Conditions of Employment) Act, 1966, Hindu Marriage Act, 1955, Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956, Dowry (Prohibition) Act, 1961, Indecent Representation of Women (Prohibition) Act, 1986 and the Commission of Sati (Prevention) Act, 1987 etc. to protect women against social discrimination, violence and atrocities and impose obligations on the employers with regard to providing special facilities for women and preventing any form of discrimination.

Government is implementing programmes of (a) Support Services such as working women hostels, creches, facily counselling centres etc; and (b) Awareness Generation for Women and dissemination of information against/ regarding their rights through legal literacy. Efforts are also made through print and electronic media to project positive images of women in society and to bring about changes in societal attitudes towards women.

Further, the National Commission for Women set up under the National Commission for Women Act, 1990, is also charged with the responsibility of overseeing the implementation of the various laws dealing with safeguards for women including working women.

Review of functioning of Libraries in KVs

5682. SHRI SHIV CHARAN SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the functioning of libraries of Kendriya Vidyalayas has not been reviewed during the last 30 years of their existence;

(b) if so, whether Government are contemplating a comprehensive study by experts with a view to improving their working; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPTT. OF EDUCATION & CULTURE) (KM. SELJA): (a) The functioning of libraries of Kendriya Vidyalayas has been one of :he items taken up for specific review by the Dr. B.D. Sharma Committee set up by the Government of India in 1987 and by the recent review committee under the Chairpersonship of the Dy. Minister for Education & Culture.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Annual Growth of Kendriya Vidyalayas

5683. SHRI SHIV CHARAN SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the annual growth of Kendriya Vidyalayas since their inception. with regard to the sector-wise number, enrolment, staff and school buildings staff quarters and hostels etc.;

(b) whether this growth rate matches with the admission and other demands; and

(c) what steps Government have been contemplating to ensure that the growth rate matches with the demands hereupon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPTT. OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KM. SELJA): (a) Details indicating the students' enrolment and staff strength in respect of Kendriya Vidyalayas since the inception of the scheme as well as distribution of Kendriya Vidyalaya sector-wise, are given in the enclosed statement, *(see below)*

The number of school buildings sanctioned till 1994-95 is 247 and staff